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To the Members of the Labor Committee:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 63, *An Act Mandating Employers Provide Paid Sick Leave to Employees*. This ill-timed and heavy-handed new mandate would require Connecticut employers to provide paid sick leave during a time when many are simply struggling to stay afloat.

This proposal will substantially increase costs and could force businesses to reevaluate other employee benefits, some of which are negotiated prior to employment. Businesses may also decide not to hire new employees if required to provide paid sick leave. Private employers base their benefit packages on market conditions and competition, and those who provide the best benefits generally get the best employees. State government should not meddle with this market-driven balance.

S.B. 63 sends the wrong message. Instead of helping to attract and maintain private employment in the state, passage of this law would send the message that Connecticut is closed to business.

Please reject S.B. 63. We need to support business in Connecticut, not drive it away.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Tami W. Zawistowski*

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